

**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 5**

**DATE:** September 25, 2006

**SUBJECT:** Reports of Significant Developments and Activities  
Ending on September 19, 2006

**FROM:** Richard C. Karl, Director  
Superfund Division

**TO:** Bharat Mathur  
Acting Regional Administrator

Norman R. Niedergang  
Acting Deputy Regional Administrator

The activities listed below are organized by site-specific activities, other significant developments, and training/conferences:

**SITE-SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES**

**Five-Year Review Report Completed, Perham Arsenic Site Superfund Site, Perham, Minnesota**

On September 19, 2006, a Five-Year Review Report was completed and signed for the Perham Arsenic Superfund site in Perham, Minnesota. The final report was based on a property inspection on August 9, 2006, that found the site to be secure and in proper condition for operation and maintenance, with a Site Deed Restriction scheduled to be implemented. The report was prepared by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA), with assistance from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) Region 5, and confirms that the Perham Arsenic site remedy remains protective of both human health and the environment.

The Perham Arsenic site remedy, based on the 1994 Record of Decision, includes a groundwater treatment system for arsenic (including recovery wells and a discharge system), a municipal water supply hook-up for a nearby resident, and institutional controls requiring a Site Deed Restriction.

Contact: Jeff Gore (312-886-6552)

**Five-Year Review Report Issued, Pristine, Inc., Superfund Site, Reading, Ohio**

On September 19, 2006, the Region 5 Superfund Division issued the third Five-Year Review Report for the Pristine, Inc. Superfund site in Reading, Ohio.

The remedy for the Pristine Site includes: demolition of site structures, thermal treatment of soil, construction of a soil cap, installation and operation of a groundwater pump-and-treat system, installation and operation of an in-situ soil vapor extraction system, groundwater and soil vapor monitoring, and institutional controls. Site construction completion is documented in the September 30, 1998, Preliminary Close-Out Report.

The current Five-Year Review notes that the remedy was constructed in accordance with the requirements of the Record of Decision (ROD), ROD Amendment, and Explanation of Significant Differences. The groundwater pump-and-treat system and the in-situ soil vapor extraction system are functioning as designed. The immediate threats at the site have been addressed, and the remedy is protective of human health and the environment in the short term. Long-term protectiveness will be verified based on the follow-up actions and recommendations in the Five-Year Review Report. The remedy will be confirmed as fully protective when groundwater and soil cleanup goals are achieved, and the institutional control recommendations are implemented.

Contact: Ron Murawski (312-886-2940)

**Administrative Complaint Filed, Coca-Cola Enterprises, Inc., Alsip, Illinois**

On September 12, 2006, the Agency filed an Administrative Complaint against Coca-Cola Enterprises, Inc., Alsip, Illinois. The Administrative Complaint alleges violations of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), Section 103. On March 20, 2006, at 10:30 a.m., Coca-Cola Enterprises, Inc., had a 563 pound release of anhydrous ammonia into the environment. Anhydrous ammonia is a hazardous substance under the CERCLA Act with a reportable quantity (RQ) of 100 pounds. This release is 5.6 times the reportable quantity (RQ). The person in charge of the facility notified the National Response Center (NRC) on March 20, 2006, at 1:54 p.m. or 3 hours and 24 minutes after the release occurred. The proposed penalty

in the Administrative Complaint is \$20,150. Coca-Cola Enterprises, Inc., will have 30 days to respond to the Administrative Complaint.

Contact: James Entzminger (312-886-4062)

**Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study Report Approved,  
Chemical Recovery Site, Elyria, Ohio**

On September 7, 2006, U.S. EPA Region 5 Superfund Division approved the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) Report for Chemical Recovery Systems, (CRS) Inc., located in Elyria, Ohio. The 2.5 acre site is a Superfund Alternative Site. CRS is a former solvent reclamation facility, located in a predominantly industrial area. The East Branch of the Black River runs along the western boundary of the site.

Laboratory analyses indicate that soil and groundwater were impacted by historic site activities. Volatile organic compounds (VOCs), semi volatile organic compounds (SVOCs), polychlorinated biphenyls, cadmium, iron, and lead were detected above action levels for soil; VOCs and SVOCs were detected above action levels for groundwater. In general, VOCs and SVOCs concentrations decrease with depth in soil and ground water. Surface water and sediments are not impacted; the chemical of concern was not detected above action levels.

The site remedial alternatives that will be evaluated in the proposed plan include: no action, containment, soil cover (partial infiltration barrier), stone cover (partial infiltration barrier), asphalt cover (partial infiltration barrier), concrete cover (partial infiltration barrier), and excavation and disposal

Public presentation of the proposed plan is planned for November or December 2006.

Contact: Gwendolyn Massenburg (312-886-0983)

**OTHER SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS**

**Emergency Response, Flood, Highland, Indiana**

On September 14, 2006, the Highland Fire Department requested

that U.S. EPA assist them in dealing with the effects of heavy rains and flooding. On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) William Simes responded to the incident and worked closely with the fire department and Indiana Department of Homeland Security in evaluating chemical hazards and possible oil releases in the flooded area.

Some areas had over nine inches of rain in less than 3 hours. Eighteen structures collapsed during and after the flood. The State of Indiana has declared the town a disaster area. OSC William Simes gave advice on the disposal of household hazardous waste and responded to three incidents, a possible oil release into a residential structure, a gas release in a house, and a collapsed structure.

Contact: Bill Simes (312-886-3337)

#### **TRAINING/CONFERENCES**

##### **Oil Pollution Act Government Initiated Unannounced Exercises, Lake County, Indiana**

The week of September 11, 2006, Sheila Calovich, Alex Tzallas, and Josie Clark of the Oil Planning and Response Section (OPRS) conducted Oil Pollution Act (OPA) unannounced exercises and inspections in Lake County, Indiana. Government Initiated Unannounced Exercises were conducted at Buckeye, Hammond Terminal, Safety Kleen Oil Recovery Company, Wolf Lake Terminals, and Marathon, Hammond Terminal. All of these facilities passed their exercise. An inspection was conducted at the Premcor/Valero, Hammond terminal. This concludes the exercise schedule for Fiscal Year 2006. OPRS staff conducted 23 exercises and 7 Facility Response Plan inspections and one Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure (SPCC) inspection at a total of 30 facilities. Of the 23 exercises that were conducted, 16 facilities passed the exercise and 7 facilities failed the exercise.

Contact: Sheila Calovich (312-353-1505)

##### **CANUSLAK '06 Response Exercise, Alexandria Bay, New York**

On September 6 and 7, 2006, the US and Canadian Coast Guards conducted this year's cross border, joint response exercise. Chris Christenson from Region 5 participated as the evaluator of

the Unified Command. Great Lakes Operational Supplement to the Canada-United States Joint Marine Pollution Contingency Plan (CANUSLAK), primary goal of this exercise was to test booming and protection strategies created by the Unified Command and test the execution of these strategies by both Canadian and US response agencies. A secondary goal was to test the cross border contingency plan by moving assets from the Canadian side to assist in booming strategies in the US and move US assets to the Canadian side to assist in their booming strategies. The scenario was an ocean going vessel which lost steerage due to unknown circumstances which caused her to run aground at Whiskey Island. This grounding resulted in one of the fuel storage tanks being ruptured, discharging approximately 100,000 gallons of #6 oil into the St. Lawrence River. The first day's objectives were to establish the Unified Command Post, ensure that all notifications were made and develop and implement the Incident Action Plan (IAP). The second day all response assets were deployed consistent with the instructions conveyed at the previous day's briefing of the IAP which ended the first day of play.

Numerous agencies from various levels of government and the private sector were in attendance and participating.

Contact: Chris Christenson (312-353-6303)

**U.S. EPA Region 5 Nanotechnology, Site Remediation Workshop, Chicago, Illinois**

The U.S. EPA is investing heavily in the new rapidly expanding, innovative area of technology known as nanotechnology, which is based on the production and use of particles in the 1-100 nanometers size range. Particles at this minute scale can have novel and unexpected properties compared with chemically identical, but larger, particles.

Commensurate with Acting Regional Administrator Bharat Mathur's statement that he wants Region 5 to be a lead region for nanotechnology, the Innovative Systems and Technology Branch of the Superfund Division held this workshop to inform staff and management of the potential and implications associated with this new technology. The 2-day workshop was co-chaired by Drs. Charles Maurice and Warren Layne on September 6-7, 2006, with technologies and applications being addressed on the first day and associated implications and risks being addressed on the second day. It featured internationally recognized speakers from industry, government, and academia who provided information,

insight, and perspective to over 100 registered participants. Participants were from all over the United States and represented U.S. EPA Headquarters and several Regions, States from South Carolina to California, and a diverse array of companies and universities.

Relatedly, Drs. Maurice and Layne have been asked to build on their success and co-chair an International Conference on Nanotechnology Applications for Pollution Control and Remediation to be held next Fall in Chicago.

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